



# ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Thursday, January 18, 2007

## Major Developments

### Update: More Than 200,000 Customers Remain Without Power After Weekend Storm

On January 13, a winter storm system carrying ice, sleet and freezing rain began causing power outages in the Panhandle area of Texas. The storm then moved northeast over the next two days, knocking out power to thousands of homes and businesses from Texas to New Hampshire. Additional storms have hit Texas and Oklahoma over the past couple of days complicating restoration efforts and increasing the number of power outages in affected areas. There are currently 223,734 customers in IL, KS, MI, MO, NH, NY, OK, and TX without power as a result of the winter storm. This represents less than one percent of customers in affected utility service areas in the states represented. See table below.

### Outages in Affected States

State	Peak Customers Without Power	Current Customers Without Power	Total Customers in State	Percent Without Power
Illinois	4,000	149	4,921,448	0.00%
Kansas	46,300	1,630	1,179,297	0.14%
Massachusetts	4,000	0	2,441,022	0.00%
Michigan	223,000	13,500	4,248,856	0.32%
Missouri	330,000	108,272	2,565,274	4.22%
New Hampshire	50,000	6,000	580,535	1.03%
New York	140,000	528	6,513,684	0.01%
Oklahoma	122,000	61,688	1,569,162	3.93%
Texas	99,000	13,800	8,562,931	0.16%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,018,300</b>	<b>205,567</b>	<b>32,582,209</b>	<b>0.63%</b>

Note: due to a large number of service providers, including investor owned utilities and cooperatives, the number of customer outages reported may not be comprehensive.

#### Sources:

- IL – Ameren as of 2:15pm CST 1/18/07 [http://www.ameren.com/Outage/ADC\\_RS\\_StormCenter.asp](http://www.ameren.com/Outage/ADC_RS_StormCenter.asp)  
KS – Kansas Cooperatives as of 1/18/07 <http://www.kec.org/Safety%20News/OutageInfo.htm>  
Kansas City Power and Light as of 2:00pm CST 1/18/07  
[http://www.kcpl.com/kcmaps/frameset\\_menus.htm](http://www.kcpl.com/kcmaps/frameset_menus.htm)  
MA – Western Massachusetts Electric as of 3:00pm EST 1/18/07  
<http://www.wmeco.com/Community/StormCenter/RestorationStatus.aspx>  
MI – AEP Indiana Michigan Power as of 9:00 pm EST 1/16/07  
<http://www.indianamichiganpower.com/news/outages/viewstorm.asp?stormID=591>  
Consumers Energy as of 9:30am EST 1/17/07 <http://www.consumersenergy.com/welcome.htm>  
DTE Energy as of 3:50pm EST 1/17/07 <http://my.dteenergy.com/main/indexStorm.html>  
MO – State of Missouri Emergency Management Agency Situation Report, 11:00am CST 1/18/07  
<http://sema.dps.mo.gov/SitReps/SITREP11807PM.pdf>  
NH – Ameren as of 2:15pm CST 1/18/07 [http://www.ameren.com/Outage/ADC\\_RS\\_StormCenter.asp](http://www.ameren.com/Outage/ADC_RS_StormCenter.asp)  
Public Service of New Hampshire as of 2:00pm EST 1/18/07  
<http://www.psnh.com/aboutpsnh/mediacenter/stormupdates.asp>

- NY– National Grid as of 12:50pm EST 1/18/07  
<https://www1.nationalgridus.com/niagaramohawk/storm/OutagesByCounty.aspx>
- OK– Oklahoma Office of Emergency Management as of 11:00am CST 1/18/07,  
[http://www.ok.gov/OEM/Emergencies\\_&\\_Disasters/Winter\\_Weather\\_Event\\_20070112\\_Master/Winter\\_Weather\\_Event\\_20070112-23.html](http://www.ok.gov/OEM/Emergencies_&_Disasters/Winter_Weather_Event_20070112_Master/Winter_Weather_Event_20070112-23.html)  
 Oklahoma Association of Electric Cooperatives as of 11:00am CST 1/18/07,  
[http://oaec.coop/Latest\\_News\\_2.php](http://oaec.coop/Latest_News_2.php)  
 AEP Public Service Company of Oklahoma as of 11:00am CST 1/18/07,  
<http://www.psoklahoma.com/news/outages/viewstorm.asp?stormID=593>  
 Oklahoma Gas & Electric as of 3:00pm CST 1/18/07, <http://www.oge.com/systemwatch/>
- TX – Austin Energy as of 9:00pm CST, 1/17/07,  
<http://www.austinenrgy.com/Customer%20Care/Power%20Outages/outageEvent.htm>  
 CPS Energy as of 11:00pm CST, 1/17/08,  
[http://www.mysanantonio.com/news/metro/stories/MYSA011807.08A.Bexar\\_Weather.1bede04.html](http://www.mysanantonio.com/news/metro/stories/MYSA011807.08A.Bexar_Weather.1bede04.html)
- Total customer data as of 2005 from EIA: <http://www.eia.doe.gov/cneaf/electricity/esr/table6.xls>

## **Electricity**

---

### **Xcel's 613 MW Monticello Nuclear Plant in Minnesota Shut Indefinitely**

Xcel's 613 MW single unit nuclear facility in Minnesota was shut for an indefinite period on January 16 after a 35,000 pound control box broke loose and fell from a steel beam. The accident resulted in other equipment malfunctions which triggered the automatic shut down of the plant. The cause of the accident is under investigation and the company has stated that they have no estimate as to when the unit will return to service.  
<http://www.startribune.com/462/story/940767.html>

### **NPPD's 1,365 MW Gerald Gentleman Coal-fired Power Plant in Nebraska Running at Reduced Power Due to Downed Transmission Lines**

Last month severe ice storms downed several important transmission lines that carry power from Nebraska Public Power District's 1,365 MW Gerald Gentlemen coal-fired power plant to eastern Nebraska. As a result, the power plant has been running at reduced capacity. Meanwhile eastern Nebraska's electricity demand has been supplied by increased generation from other NPPD plants and from open market purchases. NPPD expects to have key portions of the grid rebuilt by May. More than 160 miles of NPPD's 4,000-mile transmission grid must be reconstructed.  
[http://pro.energycentral.com/professional/news/power/news\\_article.cfm?id=7669881](http://pro.energycentral.com/professional/news/power/news_article.cfm?id=7669881)

### **Update: TXU's 750 MW Martin Lake Coal-fired Unit 3 in Texas Back On-line January 18**

The unit was shut on January 16 to repair a tube leak.

Reuters, 10:38 January 18, 2007

### **TXU to Restart 575 MW Big Brown Coal-fired Unit 1 in Texas January 18**

TXU Corp. was to initiate restart of the Big Brown Unit 1 during the night on January 17-18. The unit was briefly taken out of service on January 17 when an electrical fault was discovered on an air fan.

Reuters, 07:34 January 18, 2007

### **TransAlta's 399 MW Coal-fired Unit in Alberta Shut January 17**

Reuters, 07:49 January 18, 2007

### **OG&E's 6 Year Plan Includes New 950 MW Plant and Expansions to Transmission and Distribution Systems**

On January 17, OG&E Energy Corp announced that it had filed a 6-year plan with Oklahoma regulators for the expansion and upgrading of its generation, transmission and distribution systems. The plans call for the construction of the 950 MW Red Rock power plant that OG&E would build in cooperation with AEP and the Oklahoma Municipal Power Authority. In addition, the company plans to strengthen and expand transmission and distribution systems, as it plans to meet 50 percent growth in demand forecast over the next 20 years.

Reuters, 09:18 January 18, 2007

## **NRC Approves 20-Year License Renewal for the Palisades Nuclear Plant in Michigan January 17**

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission on Wednesday approved the renewal of the operating license for the Palisades nuclear plant located in South Haven, Michigan. The plant will be allowed to operate for an additional 20 years.

[http://biz.yahoo.com/ap/070117/cms\\_energy\\_license\\_approval.html?v=1](http://biz.yahoo.com/ap/070117/cms_energy_license_approval.html?v=1)

## ***Petroleum***

---

### **Update: Power Disruption Idles FCC and SRU at Valero's 260,000 b/d Port Arthur Refinery in Texas January 16**

According to Valero, a disruption of steam-generated power caused the idling of several units at its Port Arthur refinery. The disruption affected a fluidic catalytic cracker (FCC) and a sulfur recovery unit (SRU). Late yesterday, Valero said the incident did not have a material impact on production.

Bloomberg News, 10:40 January 17, 2007

Reuters, 15:36 January 17, 2007

### **Pump Malfunction Cuts Feedstock to FCC at ConocoPhillips's 247,000 b/d Sweeny Refinery in Texas January 16**

According to a filing with Texas regulators, a pump malfunction affected two units that lead to the refinery's fluidic catalytic cracking (FCC) unit, reducing feedstock to the FCC. According to the filing, the upset lasted 3 hours.

Reuters, 08:32 January 18, 2007

### **Texas Refineries Report Few Problems Due to Ice, Freezing Rain**

<http://www.platts.com/Petrochemicals/News/6339072.xml?p=Petrochemicals/News&sub=Petrochemicals>

### **Gas Explosion Disrupts Production at 200,000 b/d Shuaiba Refinery in Kuwait January 17**

An explosion in a gas pipeline sparked a small fire at Kuwait's 200,000 b/d Shuaiba refinery, temporarily cutting refined product production by 10 percent. According to Kuwait Petroleum Corp., operations were only briefly disrupted and exports were not affected.

Agence France Presse, 13:36 January 18, 2007

Dow Jones Commodities Service, 13:08 January 18, 2007

### **Newfoundland Government Rejects Hibernia Oilfield Expansion**

According Newfoundland's energy minister, the provincial government has rejected an application by developers to expand development of the Hibernia offshore oil field because not enough is known about the plans. Hibernia Management and Development Corp. applied in May to tap 233 million barrels of oil reserves located in an area known as Hibernia South.

Oil Daily January 18, 2007

Reuters, 14:59 January 18, 2007

## ***Natural Gas***

---

### **API Reports Well Completions in 2006 Highest in 21 Years**

According to the just released 2006 Quarterly Well Completion Report of the American Petroleum Institute, nearly 50,000 oil and natural gas wells were drilled in the U.S. during 2006. The number of wells was the highest in 21 years, nearly double the number drilled annually during the early- to mid-1990s. An estimated 29,536 natural gas wells were drilled in 2006, an all-time high.

<http://www.api.org/Newsroom/drilling-all-2006.cfm>

### **Cameron Meadows Gas Processing Plant Back to Full Capacity**

Williams Companies announced on January 12 that repairs has been completed at the 500 MMcf/d Cameron Meadows facility located in southern Louisiana. The plant suffered extensive damage from Hurricane Rita in September 2005.

Hart's Gas Processors Report, January 18, 2007

## Alaska Governor Unveils Plan for Natural Gas Pipeline

On January 17, Governor Palin in her first state of the state address presented a plan to stimulate action on a natural gas pipeline. The governor indicated that she will introduce a bill setting forth the state's requirements and what the state will offer as incentives. No existing plan or proposal has been singled out, rather the idea is to facilitate and stimulate development a workable plan.

Oil Daily January 18, 2007

## Other News

---

Nothing to report.

## Energy Prices

---

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices January 18, 2007			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
<b>CRUDE OIL</b> <b>West Texas Intermediate U.S.</b> \$/Barrel	50.64	51.91	65.76
<b>NATURAL GAS</b> <b>Henry Hub</b> \$/Million Btu	6.29	6.09	8.86

Source: Reuters

## Energy Notes

---

### NY PUC Blasts ConEd's Response to July 2006 Queen's Blackout as a "Gross Disservice" to Customers

<http://www.1010wins.com/pages/185964.php?contentType=4&contentId=291287>

Full text of the draft report is available at:

<http://www.dps.state.ny.us/06E0894SR070117.pdf>

### Wild Fire Contained Near Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant in California

[http://pro.energycentral.com/professional/news/power/news\\_article.cfm?id=7674580](http://pro.energycentral.com/professional/news/power/news_article.cfm?id=7674580)

### Saudi Arabia Committed to Maintaining 1.5 to 2 Million b/d Spare Oil Production Capacity

Reuters, 02:26 January 18, 2007

### IEA Trims Projected 2007 Non-OPEC Oil Output Growth by 300,000 b/d to 1.4 Million b/d

Reuters, 04:06 January 18, 2007

### Russia Maintains Extra Patrols Around Metro, Military and Energy Sites Following Intel on Potential Attacks

Reuters, 05:58 January 18, 2007

### Putin Says Russia Will Conduct Energy Relations Based on Market, Not Politics

Reuters, 05:59 January 18, 2007

## Links

---

***This Week in Petroleum*** from the Energy Information Administration (EIA)

<http://tonto.eia.doe.gov/oog/info/twip/twip.asp>

Updated every Wednesday.

***Weekly Petroleum Status Report*** from EIA

[http://www.eia.doe.gov/oil\\_gas/petroleum/data\\_publications/weekly\\_petroleum\\_status\\_report/wpsr.html](http://www.eia.doe.gov/oil_gas/petroleum/data_publications/weekly_petroleum_status_report/wpsr.html)

Updated after 10:30 AM & 1:00 PM EST every Wednesday.

***Natural Gas Weekly Update*** from EIA

<http://tonto.eia.doe.gov/oog/info/ngw/ngupdate.asp>

Updated after 2:00 PM EST every Thursday.

### ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

---

*Energy Assurance Daily* provides a summary of public information concerning current energy issues. Published Monday through Friday to inform stakeholders of developments affecting energy systems, flows, and markets, it provides highlights of energy issues rather than a comprehensive coverage. *Energy Assurance Daily* is updated online Monday through Friday after 5:00 p.m. EST. For more information, visit the Infrastructure Security and Energy Restoration (ISER) website at:

<http://www.oe.netl.doe.gov/index.aspx>.

Please direct comments and questions to: [ead@oe.netl.doe.gov](mailto:ead@oe.netl.doe.gov)